

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY  
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Recall of Reserves	DATE DISTR.	11 June 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. In August 1952, several high-ranking officers of the Old Army were recalled for a period of training. Among these was Major General Petur Radev who was called up for a two-month period. On 6 July, 1952, several reserve officers who had been recalled for a period of training, arrived in the city of Botevgrad. Several woman officers were also observed in this city. On 9 August 1952, about 50 artillery reserve officers were recalled for a period of training and reported to the village of Obelya (N 42-44, E 23-16), located seven kilometers northwest of Sofia.
2. During this period, individual recalls of reserves also took place, as follows:
  - a. Several reserves from Sofia were recalled in the latter part of May for a 60-day training period; and were released in the latter part of July; 25X1
  - b. On 31 July, about 100 men ranging in age between 30 and 35, and apparently recalled reserves were observed boarding a train at the Sofia station.

4. Finally, as is the case every year about the same time, starting on 8 October 1952 a large number of reserves were recalled for a 1-month training period. On 21 May 1952, in preparation for this recall of reserves, the military authorities gathered together in Kazanluk the presidents of the peoples municipal council of the okoliya. These men were ordered to bring up to date their registers of reservists, animals, and means of transportation and, in general, to take all necessary measures for a trial "general mobilization," which was to take place during 1952. The presidents of the peoples municipal councils of the Pleven Okoliya were also invited in May 1952 to bring their registers up to date for a

SECRET/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC					
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

25X1

trial mobilization, to take place in 1952.

5. During the present recall of reserves in Sofia, employees of the municipal Peoples' Council personally handed notices to the individuals concerned. Three of the notices observed stated that the recipients were to be called up for a 30-day period. The first notices handed out on the afternoon of 11 July 1952, ordered the reservists to report within three hours. Some of the reservists were taken from their homes in trucks. The majority of the papers were handed out during the nights of 11 and 12 July. The recipients of these notices were to report within a period varying between 6, 8, 12, and 15 hours. Some of those recalled were told to report with their truck. Chiefs of house-blocks were told to explain to the families that this was a test and a training period scheduled to last one month. The oldest men in these groups belonged to the Classes of 1905 (for officers), and 1907 (for enlisted men).
6. The recalls took place under the form of a trial mobilization. During this period, the following main observations were made in the Sofia area:
  - a. Recall by means of individual notices handed out at night, with a reporting time varying between 3 and 24 hours; total time of the test: four days;
  - b. Rally points: at first, the schools; later, the villages located approximately ten kilometers from Sofia; clothing and weapons were distributed in these villages;
  - c. Requisitioning of various types of civilian trucks in varied conditions; many trucks not suitable for use in the country; and
  - d. Transportation carried out nearly entirely by truck.

In general this system does not appear to have worked out too badly. The reservists from the Sofia area were sent to many places, including Vidin, Kyustendil, Kazanluk, and Stara Zagora.

7. Apparently reservists from the four military regions were recalled. It is not possible at present to estimate the total number of men recalled. According to information which cannot be confirmed, the great majority of recalls allegedly took place in Sofia. It is estimated that the number of reservists recalled in the immediate vicinity of the capital since 11 October 1952, amounted to eight to 10,000 men.
8. On 23 October 1952, maneuvers of a certain importance allegedly took place in the Vakarel (N 42-33, E 23-43)-Ikhtiman region. Up to the present time, there is no indication that the maneuvers took place in a larger area. The Yugoslavia frontier between Sofia, Dupnitsa and Dragoman (N 42-56, E 22-56) was normal. The Sofia-Dupnitsa-Samokov triangle was empty. Travel of diplomats was authorized north of the Sub-Balkan railway line and east of Kostenets (N 42-15, E 23-50).
9. Although the events reported above usually take place at this time of year, they constitute a definite improvement in the mobilization organization. Apparently, in the region of Sofia, there was a vertical recall of a large unit similar to those which took place in late October and early November 1951, in several sectors of Bulgaria, notably Plovdiv and the Dobrudzha.

SECRET/CONTROL --U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY